

Senior Care Options

is available for older Nebraskans who are considering admission to a nursing home and want Medicaid to pay for the needed care.*



Senior Care Options

- ♥ Helps older Nebraskans find the right care at the right time.
- ♥ Has information about choices to allow older Nebraskans to live independently for as long as possible.
- ♥ Is designed to save taxpayer dollars by making Medicaid efficient.

* Medicaid helps people whose income and assets aren't enough to pay for needed medical care. It is not the same as Medicare.

Can Senior Care Options help me if I am not eligible for Medicaid and don't need to go to a nursing home?

Yes. The Senior Care Options program is operated by your local Area Agency on Aging. Care management, needs assessment, information and referral and a variety of other services are available to older Nebraskans (60+) through their Area Agency on Aging.

For Senior Care Options evaluation, or for more information about services available for Older Nebraskans, call:

LINCOLN INFORMATION FOR THE ELDERLY

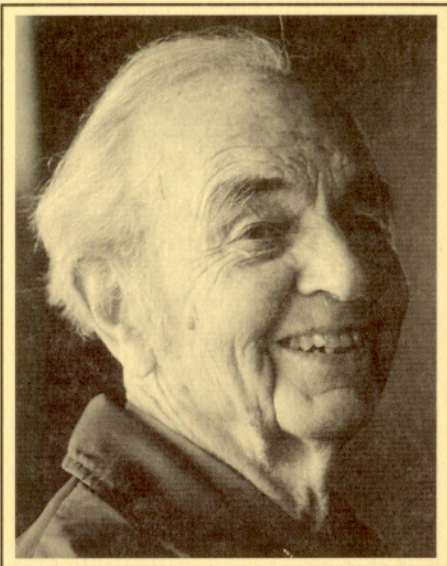
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SENIOR CARE OPTIONS



**The Right Care
At the Right Time**



What if I need Medicaid to pay for my nursing home care?

Medicaid funds may be used for nursing home care, or for home and community-based services.

Anyone can apply for Medicaid at their nearest Nebraska Health and Human Services office. Senior Care Options (SCO) becomes a part of the process when a person age 65 or older requests Medicaid payment for nursing home care.

Health and Human Services staff determine financial eligibility and SCO counselors evaluate the need for nursing home care.

What if I have health concerns, but I don't want to move to a nursing home?

This is where Senior Care Options can be especially helpful.

Even if the Senior Care Options evaluation shows that you do qualify for nursing facility care, you may still be able to stay in your own home and receive services.

Your SCO counselor will help you determine the specific types of assistance you need to remain independent, such as: housekeeping, home-delivered meals, personal care, respite, or adult day health care.

Your SCO counselor will then help you explore possibilities for funding those services. Some of the services may be paid for through Medicaid.



***Senior Care Options
counselors can help you
choose which long-term care
services are right for you.***



How would the Senior Care Options program evaluate my health?

The Senior Care Options counselor consults with you and your family members; hospitals and nursing home staff; physicians and other service providers to learn:

- How much assistance is needed in performing activities of daily living, such as dressing, walking, eating and personal care.
- Whether there are concerns about your safety, behavior or memory.
- If your health condition requires professional nursing services.

If I plan to pay for my own care, does Senior Care Options apply to me?

State law requires SCO evaluations only for people involved with Medicaid. However, many people who first use their savings to pay for nursing home care later apply for Medicaid.

It's important that you have this information now. If you need Medicaid payments after you've lived in a nursing home for awhile, SCO must evaluate your needs then.